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COUNTRY USSR (Astrakhan Oblast)

SUBJECT Airfields Near Astrakhan

NO. OF ENCLS1
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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the airfields located in
Astrakhan. In Astrakhan, there were four airfields.airfield No.2 /See Point #2 on Attachment/ was entirely a military airfield. Airfield
No.3 /See Point #3 on Attachment/ was located approximately eight km. south of
Astrakhan and was being used both as a military and as a civilian airfield. This
field was approximately two km. square and had one concrete NE-SW runway. Length
and width unknown.In 1949, two YAK-5 fighters, six
LA-5 aircraft, and a few twin-engined bombers /type unknown/.In the civilian sector of
the field there were only two buildings which were joined together. a
few scattered hangars /specifications unknown/. One of the adjoining buildings, the
passenger terminal, was 20 m long, eight m wide, and eight m high. This was a white
stuccoed brick building with a slightly pitched tin metal roof. The adjoining
administration building was also constructed of white, stuccoed-brick, and measured
approximately 20 m long, 10 to 12 m wide, and 10 m high; it had a level, tin metal
roof. In 1949, a total of six civilian planes of the IL-12 and LI-2 types in
this section of the field. The airfield has the main refueling point for all
civilian flights enroute to Moscow from Ashkhabad (37-57N, 58-23E), Alma - Ata

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/4312N-7657E/ and Baku /4025N-4950E/; [redacted] there were any stops in between these points and Astrakhan. The flights from Ashkhabad and Alma-Ata landed and departed from Astrakhan for Moscow every other day; whereas flights from Baku enroute to Moscow, Astrakhan to Moscow, Astrakhan to Gur'yev, and Astrakhan to Rostov /4715N-3953E/ departed from Astrakhan daily. The fare from Astrakhan to Moscow was 355 rubles. [redacted]

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The fourth airfield /See Point #4 Enclosure/ was a grass field approximately two km long and one km wide. It was used exclusively by the Astrakhan DOSAV. [redacted]

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[redacted] one large wooden hangar 80 to 100 m long, 20 m wide, and five m high. It had a tin metal barrel shell roof. There were about five other buildings scattered about, each approximately 10 m long, three m wide, and four m high. Some of these buildings had wooden roofs, the others were of tin metal; all possessed a slight pitch. This airfield possessed two UAK-5's and approximately 15 UT-2 type aircraft. As stated above, this airfield was used by DOSAV, whose administration building and headquarters were located at 16 Cholubyana Street in Astrakhan. There were approximately 30 members in DOSAV; it was commanded by a Soviet Air Force Reserve Captain, Boris Grigoriyevich Batashov. To become a member of DOSAV, an applicant must have completed at least seven years of formal education. As a member of DOSAV, the student was given a one-year course at ground school and in flight training. The ground school courses consisted of the theory of flight navigation and mechanics; these classes were conducted four evenings a week. The flight training was given every day in the week. [redacted]

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[redacted] the students received night flight training. At the conclusion of the course, the students were given a diploma and, generally, were inducted into the Air Force as pilots. The instructors were Soviet Air Force Reserve officers and pilots.

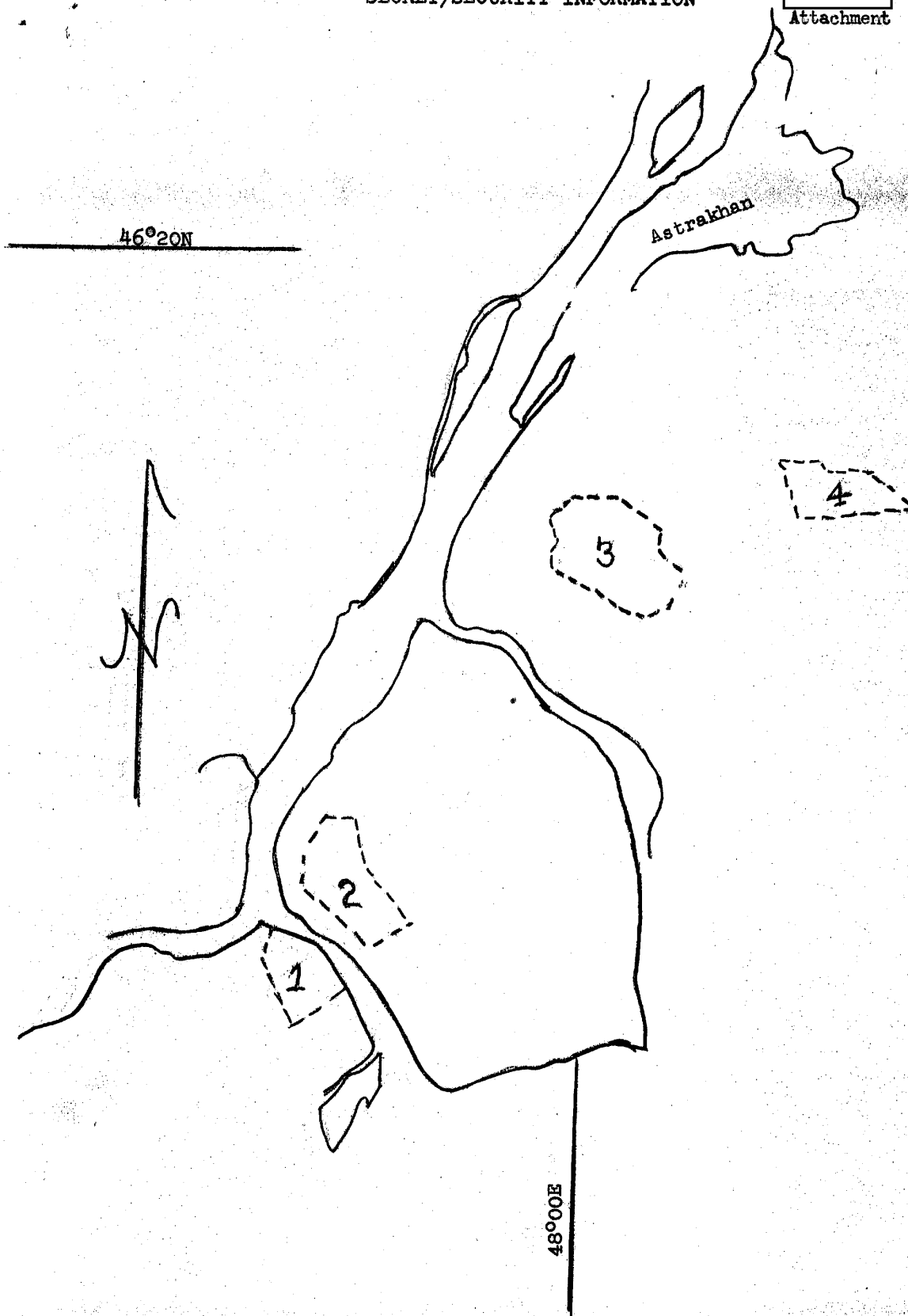
Enclosure : Overlay of Astrakhan Area

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Attachment

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